A representative computer system for the paint spray particle trajectory analysis method and system, according to the present invention, is depicted in FIG. 10. The system includes a processing unit 150 connected to a user interface which may include a display terminal 152, a keyboard 154, a pointing device, such as a mouse, 156, and the like. The processing unit 150 preferably includes a central processing unit, a memory, and stored instructions, which implement a method to assist in vehicle design according to the present invention. The stored instructions may be stored within the processing unit 150 in the memory, or in any non-volatile storage such as magnetic or optical media, EPROM, EEPROM, or the like. Alternatively, instructions may be loaded from removal magnetic media 160, such as a removal disk, sometimes called a floppy disk, optical media 158, or the like. In a preferred embodiment, the system includes a general purpose computer program to implement the functions illustrated and described with reference to FIGS. 1 through 9F. Of course, a system according to the present invention could also be embodied with a dedicated device, which includes various combinations of hardware and software. The preferred embodiment may also include a printer 162 connected to the processing unit 150, as well as a network connection for accessing a local server, an intranet 164, and the Internet 166.